

(c) *Location.* (1) To minimize erosion, a primary road shall be located, insofar as is practicable, on the most stable available surface.

(2) Fords of perennial or intermittent streams by primary roads are prohibited unless they are specifically approved by the regulatory authority as temporary routes during periods of road construction.

(d) *Drainage control.* In accordance with the approved plan—

(1) Each primary road shall be constructed or reconstructed, and maintained to have adequate drainage control, using structures such as, but not limited to bridges, ditches, cross drains, and ditch relief drains. The drainage control system shall be designed to safely pass the peak runoff from a 10-year, 6-hour precipitation event, or greater event as specified by the regulatory authority;

(2) Drainage pipes and culverts shall be installed as designed, and maintained in a free and operating condition and to prevent or control erosion at inlets and outlets;

(3) Drainage ditches shall be constructed and maintained to prevent uncontrolled drainage over the road surface and embankment;

(4) Culverts shall be installed and maintained to sustain the vertical soil pressure, the passive resistance of the foundation, and the weight of vehicles using the road;

(5) Natural stream channels shall not be altered or relocated without the prior approval of the regulatory authority in accordance with applicable §§ 816.41 through 816.43 and 816.57 of this chapter; and

(6) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(2) of this section, structures for perennial or intermittent stream channel crossings shall be made using bridges, culverts, low-water crossings, or other structures designed, constructed, and maintained using current, prudent engineering practices. The regulatory authority shall ensure that low-water crossings are designed, constructed, and maintained to prevent erosion of the structure or streambed and additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow.

(e) *Surfacing.* Primary roads shall be surfaced with material approved by the

regulatory authority as being sufficiently durable for the anticipated volume of traffic and the weight and speed of vehicles using the road.

[53 FR 45213, Nov. 8, 1988]

§ 817.180 Utility installations.

All underground mining activities shall be conducted in a manner which minimizes damage, destruction, or disruption of services provided by oil, gas, and water wells; oil, gas, and coal-slurry pipelines, railroads; electric and telephone lines; and water and sewage lines which pass over, under, or through the permit area, unless otherwise approved by the owner of those facilities and the regulatory authority.

[48 FR 20401, May 5, 1983]

§ 817.181 Support facilities.

(a) Support facilities shall be operated in accordance with a permit issued for the mine or coal preparation plant to which it is incident or from which its operation results.

(b) In addition to the other provisions of this part, support facilities shall be located, maintained, and used in a manner that—

(1) Prevents or controls erosion and siltation, water pollution, and damage to public or private property; and

(2) To the extent possible using the best technology currently available—

(i) Minimizes damage to fish, wildlife, and related environmental values; and

(ii) Minimizes additional contributions of suspended solids to streamflow or runoff outside the permit area. Any such contributions shall not be in excess of limitations of State or Federal law.

[48 FR 20401, May 5, 1983]

§ 817.200 Interpretative rules related to general performance standards.

The following interpretations of rules promulgated in part 817 of this chapter have been adopted by the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

(a)–(b) [Reserved]

(c) *Interpretation of § 816.22(e)—Topsoil Removal.* (1) Results of physical and chemical analyses of overburden and

topsoil to demonstrate that the resulting soil medium is equal to or more suitable for sustaining revegetation than the available topsoil, provided that trials, and tests are certified by an approved laboratory in accordance with 30 CFR 816.22(e)(1)(ii), may be obtained from any one or a combination of the following sources:

- (i) U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service published data based on established soil series;
- (ii) U.S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service Technical Guides;
- (iii) State agricultural agency, university, Tennessee Valley Authority, Bureau of Land Management or U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service published data based on soil series properties and behavior, or
- (iv) Results of physical and chemical analyses, field site trials, or greenhouse tests of the topsoil and overburden materials (soil series) from the permit area.

(2) If the operator demonstrates through soil survey or other data that the topsoil and unconsolidated material are insufficient and substitute materials will be used, only the substitute materials must be analyzed in accordance with 30 CFR 816.22(e)(1)(i).

(d) *Interpretation of §817.133: Postmining land use.* (1) The requirements of 30 CFR 784.15(a)(2), for approval of an alternative postmining land use, may be met by requesting approval through the permit revision procedures of 30 CFR 774.13 rather than requesting such approval through the permit application. The original permit application, however, must demonstrate that the land will be returned to its premining land use capability as required by 30 CFR 817.133(a).

An application for a permit revision of this type, (i) must be submitted in accordance with the filing deadlines of 30 CFR 774.13, (ii) shall constitute a significant alteration from the mining operations contemplated by the original permit, and (iii) shall be subject to the requirements of 30 CFR part 773 and 775.

(2) [Reserved]

[45 FR 26000, Apr. 16, 1980, as amended at 45 FR 39447, June 10, 1980; 45 FR 64908, Oct. 1, 1980; 45 FR 73946, Nov. 7, 1980; 48 FR 44781, Sept. 30, 1983]

PART 819—SPECIAL PERMANENT PROGRAM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS—AUGER MINING

Sec.

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AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 95-87, 30 U.S.C. 1201 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 48 FR 19322, Apr. 28, 1983, unless otherwise noted.

§819.1 Scope.

This part sets environmental protection performance standards for surface coal mining and reclamation operations involving auger mining.

§819.11 Auger mining: General.

(a) Auger mining operations shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of part 816 of this chapter, except as provided in this part.

(b) The regulatory authority may prohibit auger mining, if necessary to—

(1) Maximize the utilization, recoverability, or conservation of the solid-fuel resource, or

(2) Protect against adverse water-quality impacts.

§819.13 Auger mining: Coal recovery.

(a) Auger mining shall be conducted so as to maximize the utilization and conservation of the coal in accordance with §816.59 of this chapter.

(b) Auger mining shall be planned and conducted to maximize recoverability of mineral reserves remaining after the operation and reclamation are complete.

(c) Each person who conducts auger mining operations shall leave areas of undisturbed coal, as approved by the regulatory authority, to provide access